



THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT

And the Missouri National Recreational River
Some Key References

SECTION 1(b) Certain rivers of the Nation possess outstandingly remarkable values that shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.



Section 3(a) "...The Wild & Scenic Rivers Act is amended by adding..." 1) the 59-Mile District, from Gavins to Ponca, and 2) the 39-Mile District, from Fort Randall Dam to Lewis and (



Section 7(a) "... no department or agency of the United States shall assist by loan, grant, license, or otherwise in the construction of any water resources project that would have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which such river was established..."



General Issues



**MISSOURI NATIONAL
RECREATIONAL RIVER**

Exotics



Threatened & Endangered Species



Development



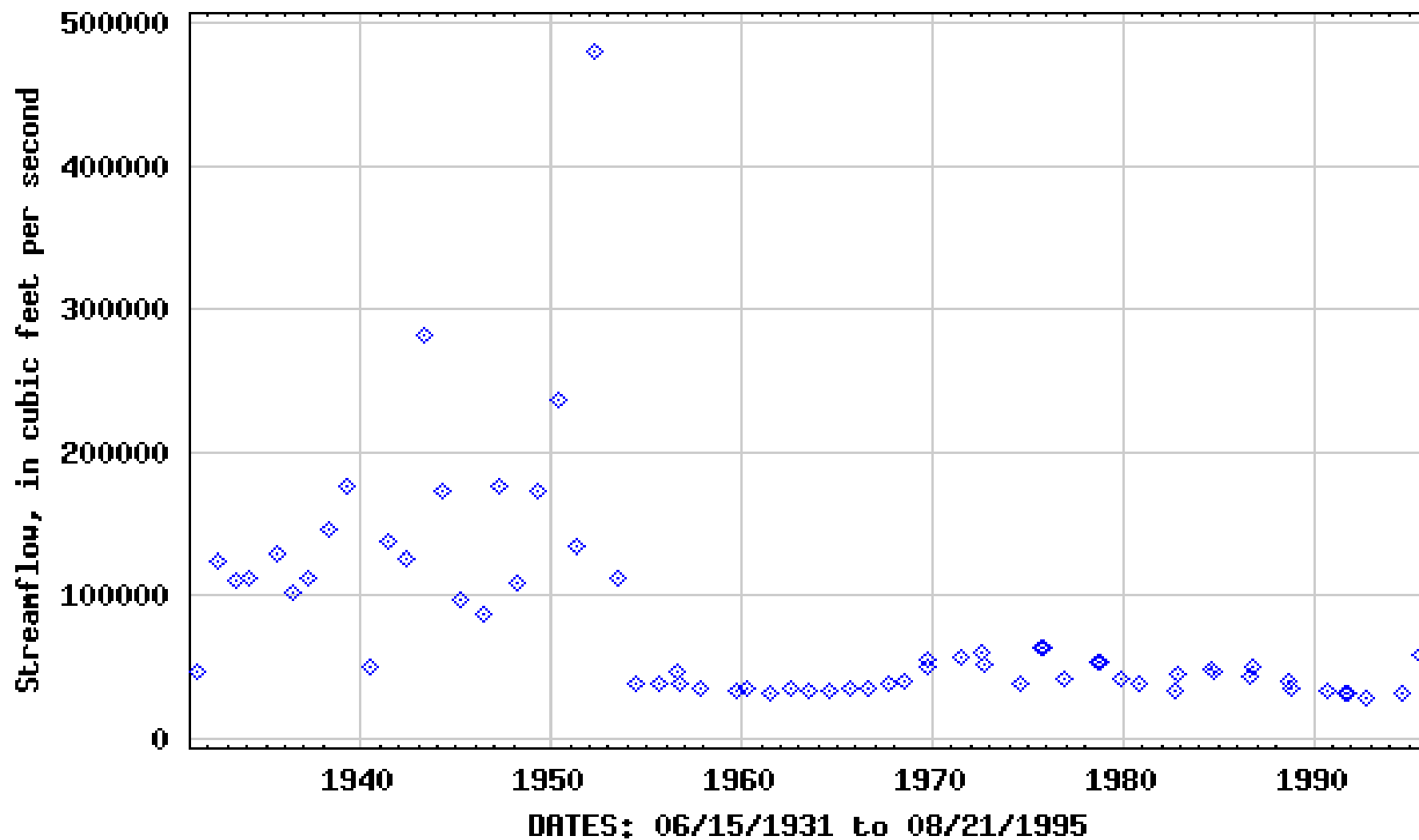


Missouri River Basin

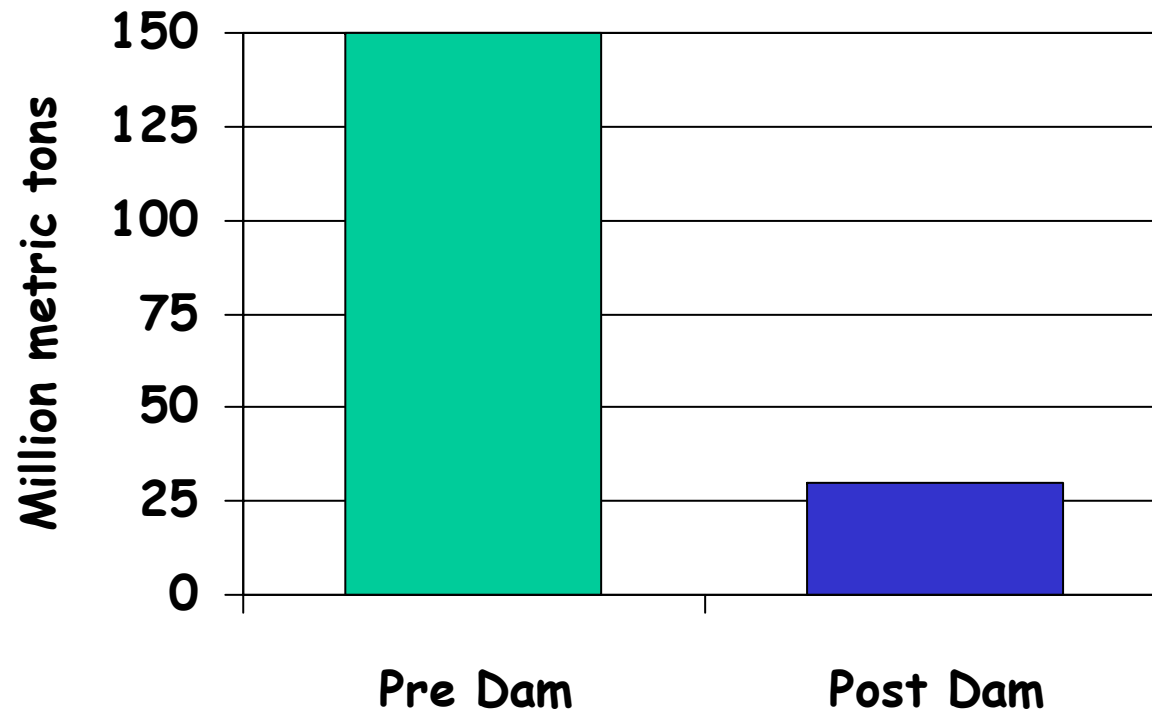




USGS 06467500 MISSOURI R AT YANKTON SD



Average annual sediment load at Omaha



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



Section 7

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

Water Resource Projects

- Boat docks and ramps
- Bridges
- Road Projects
- Bank Stabilization
- +++

Emergent Sandbar Habitat



What's driving this show?

- Endangered Species Act
 - T&E Species, Tern/Plover
 - 2000 Biological Opinion
 - 2003 Amendment to Biological Opinion
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 - Desire to maintain status quo
 - Desire to build “empires”/programs
 - Desire to engineer solutions
- Politics

Facts to date

- COE has spent >\$5 million on ~150 of habitat development to date
- According to ABO, need to create an additional 4500 acres by 2015 within 59-Mile District.
- One Federally listed mussel was found in Rec. River this fall.
- Work continues in 05 W/O Section 7 Determination.

Where do we go from here>?





mrnrr

10/20/2004

Process

- Do I get to determine when I do a solo determination versus assembling a team
- I struggle with evaluation of Outstanding Remarkable Values.
 - Does T&E outweigh other wildlife?
 - Recreation is one of ours but not scenery, However, Scenery is a part of the recreational experience.
 - etc

In my career I've worked in some programs that have had some sensitivity; politically, emotionally, and biologically. This is my first where the process has so few requirements. Everyone gets to do what they feel is right, including an agency like COE when they aren't being watched.

NPS needs to be leading this program!